

16 November 1982

INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT FOR THE MX DEPLOYMENT STUDIES

For the latest studies of MX deployment options, the Air Force and DoD elements drew heavily on departmental intelligence, but also called for interagency and CIA assessments.

- In response to a request from the ACS, Intelligence, USAF, the WSSIC prepared an assessment, "Some Technical Issues Bearing on MX Survivability in the Closely Spaced Basing Mode," August 1982.
- OSWR prepared assessments on potential Soviet developments related to MX. Among them a TRW report "Considerations in Formulating Attacks Against MX Dense Pack," 1 July 1982 was prepared in response to OSWR tasking; and a memorandum for Dr. Marvin C. Atkins, Office of Under Secretary of Defense Research and Engineering, subject "Lead Times for Detection of Soviet Response to US CSB," 14 September 1982. In this memorandum OSWR attributed to the Soviets less capability for development of "soft landers" than in their latest assessments.
- The NIO/SP, supported by OSWR analysts, has worked closely with NSC Staff personnel in developing the threat portion of the issue paper for the NSC meeting on 18 November.

Finally, the material in national intelligence issuances, including NIE 11-3/8-81, NIE 11-13-82, various WSSIC reports and CIA assessments have contributed to the studies on MX deployments.

Since the President's decision, the NIO/SP has coordinated his Congressional testimony with DIA and Air Force. In addition, he has attended meetings with the NSC Staff (State and DoD in attendance) in an effort to coordinate the Administration's presentation of its case, especially regarding the need to settle Dense Pack characteristics (i.e. silo hardness, crater radii, etc).

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